

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

[Document Identifier: OS–0990–New]

Agency Emergency Information Collection Clearance Request for Public Comment

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, HHS.

In compliance with the requirement of section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Office of the Secretary (OS), Department of Health and Human Services, is publishing the following summary of a proposed information collection request for public comment. Interested persons are invited to send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including any of the following subjects: (1) The necessity and utility of the proposed information collection for the proper performance of the agency's functions; (2) the accuracy of the estimated burden; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology to minimize the information collection burden.

To obtain copies of the supporting statement and any related forms for the

proposed paperwork collections referenced above, e-mail your request, including your address, phone number, OMB number, and OS document identifier, to *Sherette.funncoleman@hhs.gov*, or call the Reports Clearance Office on (202) 690–6162. Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collections must be directed to the OS Paperwork Clearance Officer at the above e-mail address within 30 days.

Proposed Project: Healthy Living Innovation Awards—OMB No. 0990–NEW—Emergency Information Collection Clearance Request—Assistant Secretary Planning Evaluation (ASPE).

Abstract: The Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE) is requesting emergency approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to receive applications from public and private sector organizations for the Healthy Living Innovation Awards. The project will provide an opportunity for HHS to increase public awareness of creative approaches to develop and expand innovative health promotion programs and duplicate successful strategies in various settings. The Healthy Living Innovation Awards is a new HHS initiative designed to identify and

acknowledge innovative health promotion projects within the last 3 years that have demonstrated a significant impact on the health status of a community. As a part of the Awards selection process interested private and public sector organizations will nominate themselves by completing an online form that asks several questions related to the project and the organization as a whole. The responses to these questions will be used to determine the best-qualified nominees for several award categories. An HHS expert panel will review nominations and make an initial selection of the most promising innovations in each category. An executive summary of the nomination form for the most promising innovations will then be posted on the HHS Healthy Living Innovation Awards Web site for public voting. The Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services will make final determination of the award winners in each category based on public votes and recommendations from the HHS expert panel. The Secretary will present awards to the winners in a public recognition ceremony in Washington DC. Data collection activities will be completed within 6 months of OMB clearance.

ESTIMATED ANNUALIZED BURDEN TABLE

| Type of respondent | Number of respondents | Number of responses per respondent | Average burden hours per response | Total burden hours |
|---|-----------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Organizations (Social and Community Service Managers) | 120 | 1 | 30/60 | 60 |

Seleda Perryman,

Office of the Secretary, Paperwork Reduction Act Reports Clearance Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Secretarial Review and Publication of the Annual Report to Congress Submitted by the Contracted Consensus-Based Entity Regarding Performance Measurement

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary of Health and Human Services, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice acknowledges the Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) receipt and review of the annual report submitted to the Secretary and Congress by the contracted consensus-based entity

regarding performance measurement as mandated by section 183 of the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act of 2008 (MIPPA). The statute requires HHS to publish not later than six months after receiving the annual report to Congress in the **Federal Register** together with any Secretarial comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kate Goodrich (202) 690–7213.

I. Background

Rising health care costs coupled with the growing concern over the level and variation in quality and efficiency in the provision of health care raise important challenges for the United States. Congress mandated the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to contract with a consensus-based entity regarding performance measurement to support HHS' efforts to achieve value as a purchaser of high-quality, patient-

centered, and financially sustainable health care. Section 183 of the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act of 2008 (MIPPA) added section 1890 to the Social Security Act (the Act). The statute mandates that the contract shall be competitively awarded for a period four years and may be renewed under a subsequent competitive contracting process.

In January 2009, a competitive contract was awarded by HHS to the National Quality Forum (NQF) for a four-year period. The contract specified that NQF should conduct its business in an open and transparent manner, provide the opportunity for public comment and ensure that membership fees do not pose a barrier to participation in the scope of HHS' contract activities, if applicable.

The HHS four-year contract with NQF includes the following major tasks:

Formulation of National Strategy and Priorities for Health Care Performance